

IMPORTANT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT BY APRIL 15....



Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH)

April 1, 2014

Maryland State Healthcare Innovation Plan: Public Comments Accepted Until April 15

On March 31, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) submitted the linked [State Healthcare Innovation Plan](#) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). This represents the main deliverable due to CMS as part of the "SIM Model Design" planning grant that DHMH received in February 2013 to design what we put forward as the "Community Integrated Medical Home." It describes what Maryland would propose to implement if awarded further funding - including, but not limited to, a "SIM Model Testing" award - to implement this model design.

In developing this [plan](#), DHMH engaged in an intensive and extensive stakeholder engagement process between May and September of 2013 to solicit input into the design of the Community Integrated Medical Home. Agendas and meeting materials may be found here: <http://hsia.dhmh.maryland.gov/SitePages/sim.aspx>

While much of this [Innovation Plan](#) is the product of those collaborations and the feedback received during that stakeholder engagement process, the application for the modernized all-payer hospital payment model had not yet been approved during that time. As such, this [Innovation Plan](#) represents Maryland's first systematic attempt to integrate the concepts of the Community-Integrated Medical Home with the hospital payment model.

Stakeholder engagement will continue to help guide this integration and, as such, this [plan](#) should be construed as a living document that will continue to take shape as stakeholder engagement continues.

We invite you to review this [Innovation Plan](#) and provide us your feedback. Please send all comments and questions to marylandSIM@gmail.com by **April 15, 2014**.

Thank you for your continued interest and engagement.

Click [here](#) to access the State Healthcare Innovation Plan.

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Frequently Asked Questions

- What is SIM?

SIM stands for the "State Innovation Model" initiative sponsored by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation. More information can be found here: <http://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/state-innovations/>

- What is the difference between the SIM Model Testing award, the SIM Model Design award, and the State Healthcare Innovation Plan?

The SIM Model Design award is a planning grant. Maryland was one of 16 states that received this award. The State Healthcare Innovation Plan is the main deliverable for this planning grant. The SIM Model Testing award is an implementation grant which, if awarded to Maryland, would fund the implementation of parts of the State Healthcare Innovation Plan.

- When will DHMH submit its proposal to CMS for the SIM Model Testing award?

CMS has not yet announced when it will release the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for the Model Testing award.